WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Raising productivity of agriculture in dry areas

1697. MISS MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any plan to raise productivity of agriculture in dry areas of the country, if so, the details thereof;

(b) whether Government would ensure lending to small and medium farmers of dry land who have less than five acres of land; and

(c) the money allocated for farmers having land holdings below five acres during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) To raise productivity of agriculture in dry areas of the country, the following Government programmes, along with the Bilateral and World Bank assisted Projects, are being implemented in different States:

(i) National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas (NWDPRA)

(ii) Soil conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects and Flood Prone Rivers (RVP & FPRs)

(iii) Watershed Development Project for Shifting Cultivation Areas (WDPSCA)

(iv) Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP)

(v) Desert DevelopmentProgramme.

Physical and Financial achievements of the programmes are annexed as Statement. (See below)

(b) all farmers, inclduing small and marginal farmers having less than five acres of land, are eligible for credit from the banks. Banks, as per RBI guidelines, offer special terms to small farmers in respect of margin money requirement, repayment period, etc.

(c) The amount of credit disbursed by Cooperative Banks and Regional

rural Banks to small and marginal farmers (holding less than five acres) during the last three years is as under: -

Year	Loan issued to small farmers/marginal farmers (Rs. in crores)
1999-2000	11397.38
2000-2001	13188.64
2001-2002	12193.32
TOTAL	36779.34

Statement

Physical and financial achievement under Integrated Watershed Development Projects/Schemes

Sl. No.	Watershed Scheme (Year of Start)	UptoVIIIPlan		During IX Plan (1997-2002)		Area treated since inception upto March 2002	
		Area Treated (Lakh ha.)	Total Invest (Rs. crores)	Area Treated (Lakh ha.)	Total Invest (Rs. crores)	Area Treated (Lakh ha.)	Total Invest (Rs. crores)
1	2		3		4		5
I	Min. or Rural Development, Department of Land Resources						
(i)	DPAP (1973-74)	68.60	1109.95	29.64	658.29	98.24	1768.24
(ii)	DDP (1977-78)	8.48	722.79	15.34	519.79	23.82	1242.58
(iii)	IWDP (1988-89)	2.84	542.96	14.49	496.80	17.33	1039.76
(iv)	WDTF Sub-total	0.01 79.93	4.74 2380.44	59.47	1674.88	0.01 139.40	4.74 4055.22

1	2	3		4		5	
(II)	Min. of Agri., Development, Department of Agri. & Coopn.						
(i)	NWDPRA (1990-91)	42.23	967.93	26.19	1005.92	68.42	1973.85
(ii)	RVP 7 FPR (1962&81)	38.89	819.95	8.17	470.14	47.06	1290.09
(iii)	WDPSCA (1974-75)	0.74	93.73	1.30	63.40	2.04	157.13
(iv)	EAPS	10.00	646.00	5.00	1425.00	15.00	2071.00
	Sub-total	91.86	2527.61	40.66	2964.46	132.52	5492.07
(III)	Min. or Environment and Forest						
(i)	IAEPS (1989-90)	2.98	203.12	1.23	141.54	4.21	344.66
	GRAND TOTAL	174.77	5111.17	101.36	4780.88	276.13	9892.05

Details of abbreviations:

NWDPRA	—	National Watershed Development Project for Rainfed Areas.
RVP & FPR Projects	—	Watershed Development in Catchments of River Valley & Flood Prone Rivers
WDPSCA Areas	—	Watershed Development Project for Shifting Cultivation
E.A.Ps.	—	Externally Aided Projects
DPAP	—	Drought Prone Area Programme
DDP	—	Desert Development Programme
IWDP	—	Integrated Wasteland Development Project
WDTF	—	Wasteland Development Task Force
LAEPS Scheme	—	Integrated Afforestation & Eco-development Project

Drought/Temperature adapted crops

1698. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) what are the steps taken to make our crops adapt to climatic change especially in a drought like situation; and

(b) the contingency plan proposed to ensure optimum yield even on change of temperature pattern?